

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently Amended)** A universal remote control device for effecting a same function on at least ~~twenty~~ twenty different remotely controlled ~~devices~~ televisions, comprising:
  - a housing;
  - an actuator within the housing;
  - a database of encoded signals for effecting the same function on said at least ~~twenty~~ twenty different remotely controlled ~~devices~~ televisions, each of said at least twenty different remotely controlled televisions requiring a different signal to effect said function; and
  - a signal emitter configured to sequentially emit the encoded signals so as to effect the same function for each of said plurality of different ~~devices~~ televisions in response to actuation of the actuator with no more than about ½ second between each encoded signal.
2. **(Original)** The device of Claim 1, wherein the same function is to power the device off.
3. **(Original)** The device of Claim 1, wherein the same function is to mute the device.
4. **(Canceled)**
5. **(Canceled)**
6. **(Canceled)**
7. **(Original)** The device of Claim 1, wherein the device is a television.
8. **(Previously Presented)** The device of Claim 1, wherein the device is a stereo or a video player.
9. **(Original)** The device of Claim 1, wherein the housing is configured to resemble a smiley face.
10. **(Original)** The device of Claim 9, wherein the actuator is a button on the smiley face.
11. **(Original)** The device of Claim 10, wherein the button is a nose on the smiley face.
12. **(Original)** The device of Claim 9, wherein the signal emitter is an eye on the smiley face.

13. **(Original)** The device of Claim 1, additionally comprising a second signal emitter.

14. **(Original)** The device of Claim 13, wherein both signal emitters are eyes on a smiley face.

15. **(Original)** The device of Claim 1, wherein the signal emitter is an infrared (IR) light emitting diode (LED).

16. **(Canceled)**

17. **(Currently Amended)** The device of Claim 1, wherein there is between  $\frac{1}{10}$  second and  $\frac{1}{2}$  second between each encoded signal.

18. **(Original)** The device of Claim 1, wherein the device controls only a single function.

19. **(Original)** The device of Claim 1, wherein the device is in the form of a keychain.

20. **(Currently Amended)** A method for effecting a function of a remotely controlled device in a public place, comprising:

pointing a universal remote device in the direction of the remotely controlled device, said universal remote device comprising a database of encoded signals for effecting the function on at least ~~twenty~~ twenty different remotely controlled devices, each of said at least twenty different remotely controlled devices requiring a different signal to effect said function, and wherein the signal required to effect the function on said device in said public place is not known prior to encountering it;

actuating an actuator on the universal remote device, thereby causing the device to send the encoded signals for the at least twenty different devices from the database to a signal emitter on the universal remote device; and

sequentially emitting the encoded signals from the signal emitter so as to effect the function on said remotely controlled device without selecting a set of encoded signals for the universal remote device, wherein there is no more than about  $\frac{1}{2}$  second between each encoded signal.

21. **(Original)** The method of Claim 20, wherein the encoded signals are sent only a single time to the signal emitter.

22. **(Original)** The method of Claim 20, wherein the signals emitted are infrared light.

23. **(Original)** The method of Claim 20, further comprising pointing the universal remote device in the direction of a second remotely controlled device and repeating the actuating and emitting steps.

24. **(Original)** The method of Claim 20, wherein the function effected is powering off the device.

25. **(Original)** The method of Claim 20, wherein the function effected is muting the device.

26. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 20, further comprising pointing the universal remote device in the direction of the same remotely controlled device a second time and repeating the actuating and emitting steps.

27. **(Original)** The method of Claim 26, wherein the function is reversed upon repeating the actuating and emitting steps.

28. **(Original)** The method of Claim 27, wherein the remotely controlled device is turned on when the function is reversed.

29. **(Canceled)**

30. **(Canceled)**

31. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 20, wherein the encoded signals are emitted with between about  $1/10$   $1/4$  second and  $1/2$  second between each encoded signal.

32. **(Previously Presented)** The device of Claim 1, wherein the device controls no more than two functions, wherein the functions are selected from the group consisting of power on/off, mute and closed caption.

33. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 20, wherein the device controls no more than two functions, wherein the functions are selected from the group consisting of power on/off, mute and closed caption.

34. **(Previously Presented)** The device of Claim 8, wherein the video player is a VCR or DVD player.

35. **(New)** A method for minimizing disturbance from a remotely controlled television in a public place, comprising:

encountering the television in the public place;

pointing a universal remote device in the direction of the remotely controlled television, said universal remote device comprising a database of encoded signals for effecting a function

selected from the group consisting of power on/off and mute on at least twenty different remotely controlled televisions, each of said at least twenty different remotely controlled televisions requiring a different signal to effect said function, wherein the signal required to effect the function on said television in the public place is not known prior to encountering it;

actuating an actuator on the universal remote device, thereby causing the device to send the encoded signals for the at least twenty different remote controlled televisions from the database to a signal emitter on the universal remote device;

sequentially emitting the encoded signals from the signal emitter so as to effect the function on said television in the public place, thereby minimizing disturbance from the television in the public place.

36. (New) A method for turning on closed caption and/or mute in a remotely controlled television in a public place, comprising:

encountering the television in the public place;

pointing a universal remote device in the direction of the remotely controlled television, said universal remote device comprising a database of encoded signals for effecting closed caption or mute on at least twenty different remotely controlled televisions, each of said at least twenty different remotely controlled televisions requiring a different signal to effect said function, wherein the signal for effecting closed caption and/or mute on said television in the public place is not known prior to encountering it;

actuating an actuator on the universal remote device, thereby causing the device to send the encoded signals for the at least twenty different remote controlled televisions from the database to a signal emitter on the universal remote device;

sequentially emitting the encoded signals from the signal emitter so as to effect closed caption and/or mute on said television in the public place.

37. (New) The method of Claim 36, wherein the universal remote control device further comprises a database of encoded signals for effecting muting of said at least twenty different remotely controlled televisions, additionally comprising muting the television in the public place.

38. (New) The method of Claim 37, wherein the universal remote control device effects only closed caption and muting.

39. (New) The method of Claim 20, wherein each encoded signal is sent only once.

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40. (New) The device of Claim 1, wherein the database includes no duplicate signals.
41. (New) The device of Claim 1, wherein the function effected is closed caption.
42. (New) The device of Claim 20, wherein the function effected is closed caption.